

Appn. No. 09/857,914
Atty. Dkt. No. 000561

REMARKS

Introduction

Claims 1, 3-11 and 13-20 remain in the application, of which claims 1 and 11 are in independent form. Claims 2 and 12 have been canceled. Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 9, 11, 13, 15 and 16 have been amended by this Amendment.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-4, 6-14 and 16-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,147,714 (*Terasawa*) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,340,997 (*Borseth*).

By this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended to recite, *inter alia*, "a service corresponding to a received broadcast signal and identified by the unique service identifier is given a country preference by primarily assigning it to the program location in the program location list corresponding to the logical channel number." If there is a "conflict of logical channel numbers between a first broadcast signal from a first country of origin and a second broadcast signal from a second country of origin," preference is given "to the broadcast signal containing information of country of origin corresponding to a predetermined indication of country preference."

As described in the specification as filed at page 3, lines 28-31, while present channel assignment systems "may work well for one country taken alone[,] problems arise when services can be received from neighboring countries, because these services are likely to have logical channel numbers conflicting with the ones used in the country where the receiver is used." The invention recited by amended claim 1 addresses this problem by way of a method that includes receiving broadcast signals from different countries at the same time and assigning

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channel numbers using country of origin information. Thus, as described in the specification as filed at page 4, lines 23-25, "this overcomes the problem of resolving the conflicts between logical channel numbers transmitted from different countries."

As understood by applicants, *Terasawa* describes a system wherein an electronic program guide is displayed including reduced-size still images of various channels that are divided by program category. (*Terasawa* at Abstract and FIG. 4).

Terasawa does not describe, teach, or provide motivation for all of the features recited by claim 1 of the present application. For example, *Terasawa* does not describe a method including "a service corresponding to a received broadcast signal and identified by the unique service identifier is given a country preference by primarily assigning it to the program location in the program location list corresponding to the logical channel number," and, if there is a "conflict of logical channel numbers between a first broadcast signal from a first country of origin and a second broadcast signal from a second country of origin," preference is given "to the broadcast signal containing information of country of origin corresponding to a predetermined indication of country preference."

Borseth does not cure the deficiencies of *Terasawa*. *Borseth* describes a method for "automatically configuring [a] worldwide tuning system 100 to a particular video standard and set of frequencies." (*Borseth* at col. 7, lns. 50-52). *Borseth* describes that the particular video standard is chosen by using a "country or ITU country code to perform a lookup operation in the country code table" and the "tuner filter loads and stores the indexed channel-to-frequency table." (*Id.* at col. 7, lns. 56-61). As further described by *Borseth*, "the portable viewer unit is immediately available for TV viewing in Seattle. Similarly, the user could return to Paris and retrieve the stored frequency file for that locale as well." (*Id.* at col. 8, lns. 20-23). Thus, *Borseth* describes a system that uses an ITU country code for a first country to store

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predetermined channel numbers if the portable unit is used in a first country, and subsequently uses an ITU country code for a second country to store predetermined channel numbers if the portable unit is moved to and used in a second country. Thus, *Borseth* does not address resolving conflicts between stations from different countries.

Borseth, either alone, or in combination with any of the cited references, does not describe the features recited by claim 1, such as, for example, a method including "a service corresponding to a received broadcast signal and identified by the unique service identifier is given a country preference by primarily assigning it to the program location in the program location list corresponding to the logical channel number," and, if there is a "conflict of logical channel numbers between a first broadcast signal from a first country of origin and a second broadcast signal from a second country of origin," preference is given "to the broadcast signal containing information of country of origin corresponding to a predetermined indication of country preference."

For at least these reasons, claim 1 is deemed to distinguish patentably over any hypothetical *Terasawa-Borseth* combination.

Claims 3, 4 and 6-10 depend from claim 1, that has been previously discussed and is believed to be allowable, and further narrow and define that claim. Therefore, at least for these reasons, claims 3-4 and 6-10 are also believed to be allowable.

Claim 11, while different in scope than claim 1, has been amended to recite a receiver having many of the features described above with respect to amended claim 1. For example, amended claim 11 recites "that in case of conflict of logical channel numbers between a first broadcast signal from a first country of origin and a second broadcast signal from a second country of origin, preference is secondarily given to the broadcast signal containing information of country of origin corresponding to a predetermined indication of country preference" which

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feature, as described above, is not described or taught, nor is motivation provided for the claimed combination of features by any *Terasawa-Borseth* combination.

Accordingly, for at least these reasons, claim 11 is deemed to distinguish patentably over any hypothetical *Terasawa-Borseth* combination.

Claims 13, 14 and 16-20 depend from claim 11, that has been previously discussed and is believed to be allowable, and further narrow and define that claim. Therefore, at least for these reasons, claims 13, 14 and 16-20 are also believed to be allowable.

Claims 5 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Terasawa* and *Borseth*, further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,272,343 (*Pon*).

Pon does not cure the deficiencies of *Terasawa* and *Borseth*. *Pon* describes prioritizing signals according to signal strength. (*Pon* at col. 13, lns. 25-50). *Pon*, either alone, or in combination with any of the cited references, does not describe resolving conflicts of signals from different countries. Specifically, *Pon*, either alone, or in combination with any of the cited references, does not teach, describe, or provide motivation for "a service corresponding to a received broadcast signal and identified by the unique service identifier is given a country preference by primarily assigning it to the program location in the program location list corresponding to the logical channel number," and, if there is a "conflict of logical channel numbers between a first broadcast signal from a first country of origin and a second broadcast signal from a second country of origin," preference is given "to the broadcast signal containing information of country of origin corresponding to a predetermined indication of country preference," as recited by claim 1, nor does *Pon* either alone, or in combination with any of the cited references teach, describe, or provide motivation for "that in case of conflict of logical channel numbers between a first broadcast signal from a first country of origin and a second broadcast signal from a second country of origin, preference is secondarily given to the broadcast

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signal containing information of country of origin corresponding to a predetermined indication of country preference as recited by claim 11.

Claims 5 and 15 depend from claims 1 and 11 respectively, that have been previously discussed and are believed to be allowable, and further narrow and define that claim. Therefore, at least for these reasons, claims 5 and 15 are also believed to be allowable.

Thus, applicants submit that each of the claims of the present application are patentable over each of the references of record, either taken alone, or in any proposed hypothetical combination. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections to the claims is respectfully requested.

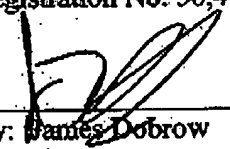
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Conclusion

In view of the above remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee for a one-month petition for extension of time to Deposit Account No. 50-1358.

Respectfully submitted,

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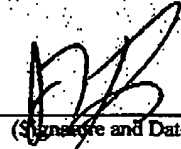
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